

HOW WE PAY FOR WRAPAROUND (and Authorization to Use Funds)

The Adoption Assistance (AAP) Wraparound program is provided instead of an adopted child having to be placed in a group home or residential treatment facility, or to assist the family to reunify with their child from a group home or residential treatment facility. The child's AAP benefit that the family would have authorized to be paid to the home or facility is instead authorized to be paid to AFTER – Kinship Center®, the Wraparound Agency providing the service, for a maximum period of eighteen months, as the family and agency staff work closely together to enable the child to remain at home. By using your child's AAP benefit in this creative way, we are able to achieve much better outcomes for children and families. This is not additional or new money, but money that would have been spent anyway on the costs of a placement. This is not money that can be used to directly increase the amount of an AAP check that a family is used to receiving.

The family usually continues to receive their own AAP payment as before, to be spent as planned in the previously negotiated agreement with the County. In addition, the family's Wraparound Team now has other money available to meet the needs of the child and family whenever those needs cannot be met in other ways. The funding works like this:

The Group Home Rate is currently either \$5,291 or \$6,294 per month, depending on the extent of emotional disturbance of the child (this rate may decrease by 10% in October 2008). From that amount, the amount of the family's usual AAP monthly check is subtracted and the family authorizes the remainder to be paid to the Wraparound Agency. Here's how AFTER allocates those funds:

- The funds pay for:**
- ✓ Office and Equipment costs
 - ✓ Office Supplies
 - ✓ AFTER's Library and other Resources
 - ✓ Insurance
 - ✓ Other Overhead Costs
 - ✓ Recruitment and Advertising (to meet family needs)
 - ✓ Staff Salaries and Benefits
 - ✓ Staff Training
 - ✓ Staff Travel Costs
 - ♥ Wraparound Discretionary Fund
 - ♥ Wraparound Contingency Fund
 - ♥ Other Child Welfare Services

Those items marked with a ✓ are the usual costs of running an agency and providing the services of staff and volunteers. The items marked ♥ are unique to Wraparound and are explained below.

Wraparound Discretionary Fund: Out of the amount received by the Wraparound Agency for each child in the program, 20 percent is set aside to help implement the Family Plans, and to be available in case of unusual and unexpected needs. Because each family and child differs in the type, extent, and severity of their needs, these funds are pooled and not allocated to any one particular Family Team, unless and until they are needed. Our Wraparound Facilitators can access these funds on the Team's behalf up to a certain dollar amount, with higher amounts to be approved by our management staff. One of the basic principles of Wraparound, required by the State of California, is that AFTER – Kinship Center provide good stewardship of these funds and, as far as possible, utilize low-cost or no-cost alternatives before spending from the Discretionary Fund.

Wraparound Contingency Fund: Out of the total amount received by the Wraparound Agency for each child in the program, 10 percent is set aside in the event that a child has to be placed in a Group Home, Residential Treatment Facility, or other placement in a non-family setting. In that event, AFTER pays for the cost of that placement until Wraparound ends. As for the Discretionary Fund, these funds are pooled and not allocated to any one particular Family Team, unless they are needed to achieve the Team's goals and meet established family needs.

The Financial Domain:

Every Family Team reviews the family's financial position, insofar as it affects the family's goals relating to the child, at the beginning of the Wraparound process and as often as needed thereafter. The financial resources available or needed to meet established needs are identified. Many families have no needs in this area and others have some that must be met from the Contingency Fund. Some may be one-time expenses and others may be ongoing. Part of the planning in the later months of the Wraparound process involves preparing for future financial stability, when Wraparound funding is no longer available. I/We understand that a return to regular Adoption Assistance Program payment at the conclusion of Wraparound may not include financial support for many activities that were covered under Wraparound.

We have reviewed the information above and hereby confirm that I/we understand how finances work in the Adoption Wraparound Program. I/we hereby authorize the Wraparound Agency, Kinship Center®, to receive and expend our adopted child's AAP benefit in the manner described above, and also authorize the County of _____ to make the payment to Kinship Center that would otherwise have been paid to a group home or institution.

For the Family

For AFTER – Kinship Center

Date: _____